

Remarks

This amendment is in response to the final Office Action dated January 11, 2005. Claim 24 has been canceled without prejudice, in order to place the case into condition for allowance. Claims 1-23 and 25-39 are currently pending. Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 1-23 and 25-39 are allowed.

Claim 24 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Applicant does not agree with the Examiner's rejection. However, to expedite prosecution, applicant has canceled claim 24 without prejudice to further prosecute this claim in another application. The Office Action included various comments concerning the art and the non-patentability of claim 24. Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's non-patentability conclusions. The discussion above has directly addressed some of the Examiner's comments and any of the Examiner's comments not specifically discussed above are deemed moot at this time in view of this response.

Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested. If, for any reason, the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to discuss the steps necessary to place the application into condition for allowance
Respectfully submitted,

Alan S. Raynes
Reg. No. 39,809
KONRAD RAYNES & VICTOR, LLP
315 South Beverly Drive, Suite 210
Beverly Hills, CA 90212
Customer No. 24033

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(310) 556-7983 (tele general)
(310) 871-8448 (tele direct)
(310) 556-7984 (facsimile)

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on May 11, 2005.

Alan S. Raynes
39,809

May 11, 2005
(Date)